

REMARKS

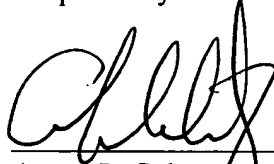
Upon entry of this preliminary amendment, claims 53-69 will be pending in this application. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-52 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Applicant has amended the claims to conform to U.S. patent practice. Support for the claims amendments can be found in the original claims and throughout the specification. Applicant has also amended the application to update the cross reference to related applications and to include an abstract. Applicants believe that these amendments do not raise any issue of new matter.

Applicants do not believe that any other fee is due in connection with this filing. If, however, Applicants do owe any such fee(s), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee(s) to Deposit Account No. **02-2334**. In addition, if there is ever any other fee deficiency or overpayment under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17 in connection with this patent application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiency or overpayment to Deposit Account No. **02-2334**.

Attorney Docket: I-2004.011 US
Preliminary Amendment
Express Mail: EV 829030955 US

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and request that it be allowed. The Examiner is requested to call the Undersigned if any issues arise that can be addressed over the phone to expedite examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Schwartz', is written over a horizontal line.

Aaron L. Schwartz
Reg. No. 48,181
Patent Counsel

Patent Department
Intervet Inc.
P.O. Box 318
29160 Intervet Lane
Millsboro, DE 19966
(302) 934-4395 (tel)
(302) 934-4305 (fax)